

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 00543 091557Z

44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /064 W

----- 106589

R 091150Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8856

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 543

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CB

SUBJECT: DEPARTURE OF MIN INTERIOR EK PROEUNG

1. MINISTER OF INTERIOR BRIGADIER GENERAL EK PROEUNG HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF MOUNTING CRITICISM FOR CORRUPTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF EXIT PERMITS FOR KHmers WISHING TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, PERMANENTLY OR ON VISIT. REASONABLY WELL DOCUMENTED INSTANCES OF VERY HIGH BRIBES TAKEN BY HIM OR HIS WIFE PERSONALLY FOR SUCH PERMITS HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OF COMMON DISCUSSION. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN FOR CORRUPTION IN THIS AREA, BUT APPARENTLY UNDER EK PROEUNG IT HAD REACHED NEW AND DIZZYING HEIGHTS.

2. PRIME MINISTER LONG BORET CONFIDED TO THE AMBASSADOR RECENTLY THAT HE WISHED TO DROP EK PROEUNG FROM HIS NEXT GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF HIS CORRUPTION, BUT THAT HE HAD BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO DO SO BY LON NOL, OF WHOM EK PROEUNG IS A GREAT FAVORITE. HOWEVER, THE MARSHAL HAS APPARENTLY CHANGED HIS MIND. IN ASIAN FASHION, EK PROEUNG AND HIS WIFE WERE ALLOWED TO DEPART FOR PARIS ON JANUARY 5. HE TOLD FRIENDS VARIOUSLY THAT THE WAS ON MISSION FOR THE MARSHAL AND THAT HE WAS GOING FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT. IT IS BELIEVED THE UNDERSTANDING IS HE WILL STAY OUT UNTIL THE NEXT GOVERNMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 00543 091557Z

IS FORMED, SO THAT HE CAN BE DROPPED FROM

GOVERNMENT INSTEAD OF FIRED.

3. COMMENT: PRIME MINISTER HAS CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF  
THE ABOVE. REGARDLESS OF HOW IT CAME ABOUT, THE DEPARTURE  
OF THE VENAL EK PROEUNG IS BOUND TO BE POPULAR AND TO  
REDOUND TO THE CREDIT OF BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER.  
COMING SHORTLY AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE EVEN MORE CORRUPT  
THAPPANA NGINN, IT DOES TEND TO SHOW SOME MOVEMENT IN THE  
ANTI-CORRUPTION FIELD.

DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CORRUPTION, CABINET, MEMBERSHIP, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PHNOM00543  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750009-0358  
**From:** PHNOM PENH  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750166/aaaacfmo.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPARTURE OF MIN INTERIOR EK PROEUNG  
**TAGS:** PINT, CB, FR, (EK PROEUNG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006